BENGALURU, FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2025 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 29 | Min 20 | Humidity 88% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 81,633 | Nifty 24,833 | Gold 97,040 | Silver 99,900 | Dollar 85.51 | Euro 97.17 | GBP 114.94

CITY / PAGE 4

MIND THE GAP

This broken footpath seems to be a punishment to pedestrians for demanding a space to walk; gaping drain below and cables poking out add to drama

CITY / PAGE 7

SATELLITE OFFICE

Tumakuru district administration inviting IT and BT companies to establish a presence locally, aiming to bring jobs closer home and ease techies' commute

26 chain-snatching cases reported till May this year, in most of which elderly or women walking alone were victims; as of now there have been 0 convictions

HOLD ON TO YOUR CHAINS FOLKS

Bike-borne thieves creep up from behind, use shock element

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Bengaluru's streets are turning into crime scenes for a fast-paced cat-and-mouse game between chain-snatchers and the city police.

In the blink of an eye, your morning walk or evening commute could turn into a nightmare.

Police data shows a spike in chain-snatching incidents, with bike-borne thieves targeting unsuspecting pedestrians, especially women and senior citizens. Zooming in and out of crowded streets, these snatchers make away with gold chains in seconds, leaving victims shocked and helpless.

According to police data, between January 1 and May 25, a total of 26 chain-snatching cases have been reported in Bengaluru. Of these, nine cases are currently pending trial, while 17 remain under investigation, resulting in zero convictions so far.

Bengaluru police officials explain that "a momentary distraction is all these snatchers need to strike". Often riding up from behind, the thieves mount pavements to snatch phones and gold chains from unsuspecting victims. They typically target crowded streets, narrow lanes, isolated roads, and pedestrians caught off guard.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

"Stay vigilant and keep phones and valuables safely tucked away. Be alert at every turn and corner, especially when walking alone, as snatchers look for the slightest opportunity —Police official

LOG IN, LOG OUT

Transport Commissioner makes it mandatory for motor vehicle inspectors to maintain daily work logs

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To tighten accountability within the Transport Department, the Transport Commissioner has issued a new directive making daily work logs mandatory for motor vehicle inspectors, commonly known as brake inspectors, across Bengaluru.

Regional Transport Officers (RTOs) have been instructed to ensure that these inspectors maintain detailed daily work diaries. The logs must be compiled and submitted to the respective RTO offices by the 5th of every month. RTOs are then required to forward the records to the Joint Commissioner by the 10th.

The move follows discussions at the recent ENOR (Evaluation of Norms and Regulations) meeting earlier this week, where concerns were raised about negligence and irregularities in the performance of brake inspectors.

According to sources, the new directive currently applies only to RTO offices within Bengaluru. The offices covered include Bangalore Central, West, East, North, South, Electronics City, Yelahanka, KR Pura, Jnanabharathi, Chandapur, Shanthinagar, and Devanahalli.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Journey within

'Whispers of Sufi — A Soulful Escape', is presenting a journey inward, guided by the timeless beauty of Sufi music, with the evocative voice of Bikash Sunarr setting the tone for an evening of reflection, romance, and rhythm.
Where: 2Moons, 1 MG Mall; When: May 30, 8 pm

02 Timeless flavours

Curated by Khansama Nasir Hussain, who carries over three decades of culinary tradition from Rampur, 'Rampuri Festival', a celebration of one of India's most refined and lesser-known royal cuisines, is offering an opportunity to experience the region's authentic flavours and timeless elegance. **Where: Spice Terrace, JW Marriott Hotel; When: May 23 to June 1, 6.30 pm to 11 pm**

03 Feel the beat

Lala Tamar, an electrifying force on the global stage—a vocalist, dancer, and guembri player whose performances defy borders and ignite the senses, will be mesmerising the audience with a live performance. **Where: Windmills, Whitefield; When: May 30 and 31, 9.30 pm**

04 Art ahead

NGMA Bengaluru is organising a workshop on Chittara for persons with disabilities. Chittara, traditionally created by the women of Malnad on their red mud-coated houses and the ground as rangoli, is part of a larger context of creativity and celebration in the region's cultural milieu. **Where: National Gallery of Modern Art, Palace Road; When: May 30, 11.30 am**

Ad Club Bangalore announces 2025 Managing Executive Committee

The Advertising Club Bangalore has announced its new Managing Executive Committee, bringing together a dynamic group of professionals from across the communications industry. Leading the committee as President is Laeeq Ali, co-founder and Director of Origami Creative Concepts and Bloombox Brand Engineers, while Nishad Ramachandran, a seasoned marketing and digital professional, will be stepping in as Vice President. Malavika Harita, founder and CEO of Brand Circle, will be the Treasurer, while Navin Nair from OneVerse will be taking the role of Joint Treasurer. Sneha Walke, founder of The Little Things Co, has been made Secretary. The extended committee consists of Ganga Ganapathi Poovaiah, Anilkumar Sathiraju, Suneet John, and GV Krishnamurthy.

President Laeeq Ali said that Ad Club Bangalore has always served as a powerful platform for industry professionals to connect, collaborate, and celebrate creativity. "Last year we added new branded events for our members like the Inspiration Room, and with the new committee in place, we are excited to chart new paths, build stronger community ties, and deliver value-driven programmes," he said.

The committee will soon unveil a fresh calendar of events, awards, networking forums, and knowledge-sharing sessions for the year ahead. **— BMB**

Could your social media impact your visa approval?

Public posts, comments, and online interactions can be interpreted as indicators of applicant's mindset or ideological leanings, highlight experts

Industry experts urge students to exercise caution and maintain a neutral online presence, especially when applying for visas in countries with stringent security protocols

As the United States moves toward more rigorous screening of student visa applicants, social media profiles are emerging as a new frontier in immigration vetting. Thousands of international students now face uncertainty as new visa interviews are temporarily paused amidst preparations for expanded background checks—a continuation of policies initiated during the Trump administration aimed at tightening immigration controls.

Although official guidelines remain unpublished, government officials have indicated a heightened focus on national security and ideological threats, meaning an applicant's digital footprint could significantly influence visa decisions.

Experts said that in today's hyperconnected world, social media has evolved beyond a platform for personal expression into a potential tool for immigration authorities to assess political beliefs, affiliations, and risk factors. Experts cautioned that public posts, comments, and online interactions can be interpreted as indicators of an applicant's mindset or ideological leanings. "Authorities may evaluate students' political views, sympathies towards certain countries, or involvement in divisive movements—all of which are often visible on social media," explained Prof Hemachandra, a geography professor.

Industry experts urge students to exercise caution and maintain a neutral online presence, especially when applying for visas in countries with stringent security protocols. "Keep your social media non-political," advised Dasharathi Belur Venugopal, a senior delivery manager.

It is important to avoid engaging in heated online debates or spreading misinformation, maintaining a professional and respectful tone at all times, and refraining from offensive language

The challenge lies not only in what students share but in how quickly social media content can be amplified and misconstrued. In a world where global events spark rapid debate, even personal posts can be perceived as political statements with serious consequences. "Students who engage in disruptive or harmful online behaviour risk damaging the host country's social harmony," said Prof Hemachandra.

"Avoid controversial statements. If you're living abroad, stay neutral and avoid affiliating with any ideological extremes," said Venugopal.

However, not all experts agree on treating all social media platforms equally.

Vikram Jolapara, Engineering Manager at Hewlett Packard Enterprise, said that there exists a clear difference between private and professional platforms. "LinkedIn is meant for professional networking and shouldn't be judged the same as personal social media. Personal opinions shared in private settings shouldn't jeopardise a student's future," said Jolapara. He opined that a person's character must not be merely reduced down to their online presence. "Judging someone solely based on social media is an incomplete and unfair assessment," he said.

Students are advised to carefully review and clean up their social media profiles well before applying for visas, removing any posts, photos, or comments that could be misunderstood or seen as controversial. Ananya Rao, an expert, noted that it is equally important to avoid engaging in heated online debates or spreading misinformation, maintaining a professional and respectful tone at all times, and refraining from language that might be considered offensive or provocative. "Managing privacy settings to limit public access is recommended, but students should keep in mind that nothing posted online is ever completely private," she said. She pointed out that immigration officials may have access to content intended for a limited audience. Hence, instead of risky content, students should focus on positive and constructive posts that highlight their academic achievements, volunteer work, and cross-cultural experiences. "A thoughtfully curated social media presence can enhance a visa application by reflecting the student's responsible and mature personality," added Rao.

— Achala Nataraj

Countdown begins for VK Education Fair

VK ವಿಜಯಕರ್ನಾಟಕ FAIR 2025 — A PREMIER EDUCATIONAL EVENT

Dreaming of securing a coveted engineering or medical seat but caught in confusion about the right path? Worry no more. To clear the doubts of students and parents alike, Vijaya Karnataka is organising the VK Education Fair on May 31 and June 1 at the Jnana Jyothi Auditorium, Bangalore University.

Free entry for all

This two-day weekend event brings together over 35 prestigious engineering and medical colleges, offering a golden opportunity for aspirants to get detailed insights under one roof. Officials from the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) will also be present to explain the application process, seat allotment, and counselling procedures.

Participating institutions will showcase their courses, fee structures, and career opportunities available after course completion. Guidance will be provided on how to select government or management quota seats in government and private colleges. This year's KEA counselling details and seat distribution will also be discussed extensively. Special focus will be given to educational loans for students from economically weaker and middle-income families, with experts available to guide on loan procedures and eligibility. With AI technology booming and skill-based courses gaining momentum, the fair will also highlight new-age programmes designed for future readiness. **— Prakash VL**

For more details, contact: 99160 79232 / 96869 38983

Event Details
Dates: May 31 & June 1
Time: 9 am to 6 pm
Venue: Jnana Jyothi Auditorium, Bangalore University, Central College Campus, Palace Road, Bengaluru

Scan the QR code to register

- Experts to guide students on choosing courses with high employment potential.
- Detailed information available on arts, commerce, and science streams.
- Participate and win a laptop, sponsored by Saptagiri NPS University.
- Universities from New Delhi, Mumbai, and Gujarat with Bengaluru campuses will be present.
- Management quota seats at government quota fees for CET rank holders under 10,000.
- Major banks offer instant educational loan assistance on-site.
- Don't miss this premier education fair — mark your calendar and take a step closer to your dream career!

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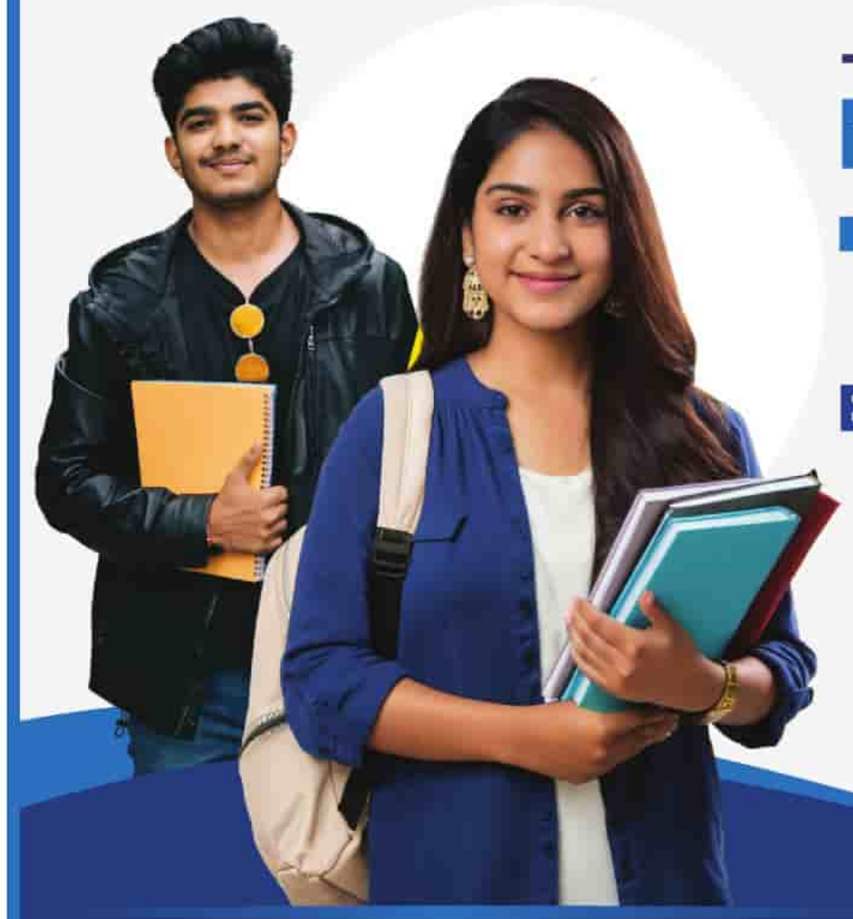
THE TIMES OF INDIA

VK ಎಜುಕೇಷನ್ FAIR 2025

A PREMIER EDUCATIONAL EVENT

VK ವಿಜಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ
VIJAY KARNATAKA
NO.1 READ DAILY IN KARNATAKA*
* Source: IRS 2019



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EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES AFTER SSLC & PUC

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Come to the fair & win a brand new laptop!

35+ prestigious Colleges & Universities are participating

Date: May 31st Saturday & June 1st Sunday

Time: 9.30 AM to 5.00 PM

Venue: **Jnana Jyoti Auditorium,**
Central College, Near Mysore Bank Circle,
Bengaluru 560001

FREE ENTRY

Counselling on Professional Courses by Education Experts

To Register Scan the QR Code

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BENGALURU CITY UNIVERSITY
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Participate in the VK EDUCATION FAIR and shape your future!

RAMAIAH UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES
REVA UNIVERSITY Bengaluru, India
SRI SIDDHARTHA
SAPTHAGIRI NPS UNIVERSITY
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BBMP empowered to act on stormwater encroachments

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar has directed officials to clear structures obstructing the smooth flow of rainwater under provisions of the Disaster Management Act. Emphasising that the government does not intend to cause hardship to anyone, he assured that appropriate compensation would be provided wherever necessary.

Speaking to the media after inspecting stormwater drains and rajakaluves near Manyata Tech Park in Yelahanka—one of the key junctions affected by recent flooding—Shivakumar explained, "This is a critical point where the issue begins before spreading to other areas. While we have already visited many rain-affected localities along with the Chief Minister, here, a few individuals have obtained stay orders from the court, hindering our efforts. Some landowners have also not cooperated with officials. Therefore, I have instructed that encroachments in such critical zones be removed under the Disaster Management Act to prevent further flooding."

Full authority given to chief commissioner

Highlighting the importance of swift action, Shivakumar stated, "Our priority is to ensure the free flow of rainwater, not to obstruct any construction unnecessarily. We will not allow Bengaluru's reputation to be compromised. We have appealed to landowners in the area to cooperate. If there have been technical lapses, we will resolve them appropriately. Everyone involved has expressed support for the proposed action, and the work will continue." He added that complete authority has been delegated to the BBMP Chief Commissioner and relevant secretaries to address and remove obstacles in this matter, ensuring that the civic infrastructure functions effectively during the monsoon. — BMB

Pedestrians navigate peril at Kogilu Cross

Residents of Kogilu Cross demand urgent BBMP action as broken footpath with missing slabs and exposed rods endangers pedestrians, especially senior citizens and children

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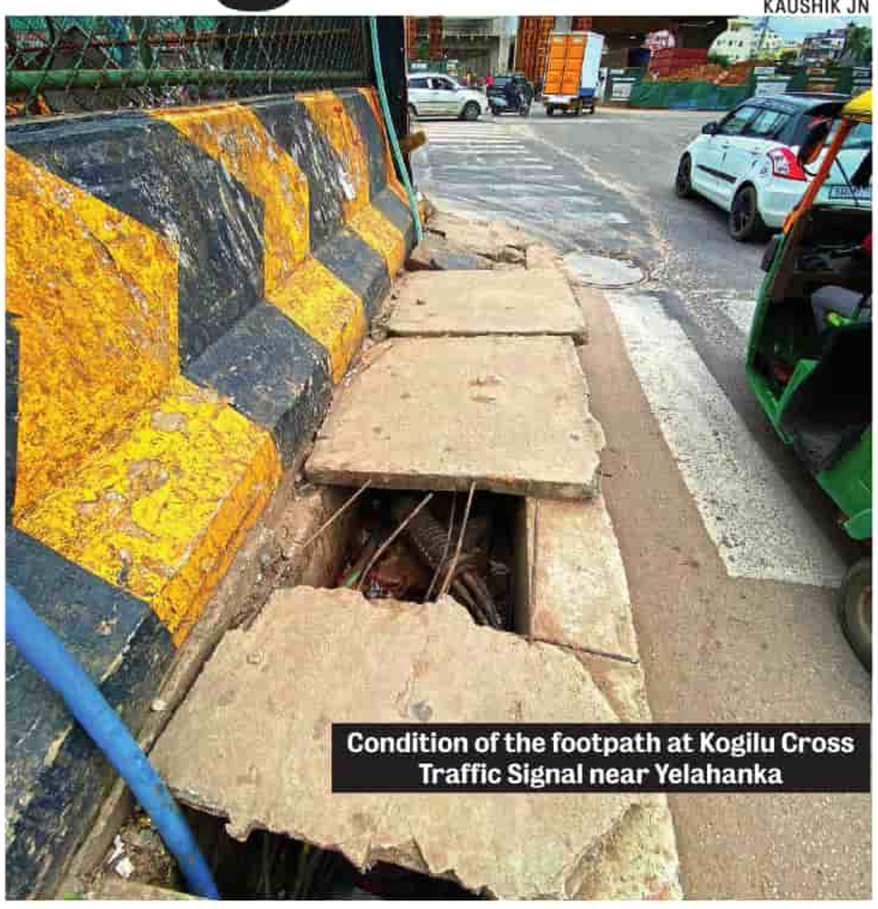
Pedestrians are finding it tough to walk on the footpath with broken concrete slabs. The footpath at Kogilu Cross Traffic Signal near Yelahanka craves for the attention of the authorities. The residents of Kogilu and nearby areas said the condition of the footpath has become very bad and dangerous for the pedestrians, especially senior citizens, during the last six months.

They said the concrete slabs on the footpath are either missing or broken with rusted steel rods. They said the stretch of the footpath lies adjacent to a busy road, where the volume of traffic leaves pedestrians with little choice but to risk walking on the broken pavement. They said that in some parts, only a few rods of rusting iron remain to prevent someone from falling into the drain below and utility cables and debris are visible through the openings, further obstructing the path and adding to the danger.

"We have complained to the BBMP authorities to fix the problem for the benefit of pedestrians but nothing has been done. The broken footpath poses danger to the unwary pedestrians," said Radha Narendra Reddy, an assistant professor.

KAUSHIK JN



Condition of the footpath at Kogilu Cross Traffic Signal near Yelahanka

> **"The broken footpath poses danger to pedestrians instead of ensuring safety. I want the BBMP authorities to fix this problem without any delay in the interest of pedestrians**
> – Dr Vijayakumar HK, Resident

Expressing the similar opinion, Dr Vijayakumar HK, a resident, said the broken footpath has become not only a nuisance but also dangerous for senior citizens. "The broken footpath poses danger to pedestrians instead of ensuring safety. I want the BBMP authorities to fix this problem without any delay in the interest of pedestrians," said Vijaykumar.

The residents said that pedestrians are vulnerable to accidents in monsoon due to the poor condition of the footpath.

Meanwhile, BBMP assistant engineer Ramsanjeevaiah said that he would visit the spot or depute BBMP workers to fix the problem. "No one has informed me about the poor condition of the footpath. I will look into it," the assistant engineer said.

Textbook supply and teacher posts boost education start

As the academic year begins, textbook delivery nears completion; over 51,000 guest teachers approved to avoid disruptions in government schools

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Karnataka's state curriculum schools have already received about 70% of the textbooks, ensuring students will have their books in hand by the time the new academic year begins. The 2025–26 academic sessions began on Thursday. The School Education Department confirmed that textbooks are being distributed during school reopening ceremonies.

According to the Karnataka Textbook Corporation, 70.47% of textbooks for government schools have been delivered so far. For private schools, 74.44% of the books have been supplied. Distribution is ongoing across the state to ensure full availability at the start of classes.

There are 70,915 state curriculum schools in Karnataka, which include government, aided, and private institutions, with a total student strength of around 1.04 crore. To meet this demand, the Karnataka Textbook Corporation received orders to print 6.01 crore textbooks for government and aided schools, and 3.75 crore for private schools. Printing contracts were issued to multiple companies through a tender process. These companies have been directed to complete delivery by the end of this month.

> **"The printing and distribution of textbooks are progressing rapidly. So far, 70–74% of textbooks have been received** – Dr KV Trilokchandra, Commissioner, School Education Dept

"The printing and distribution of textbooks are progressing rapidly. So far, 70–74% of textbooks have been received, and we are ensuring all textbooks reach schools before the reopening ceremonies," said Dr KV Trilokchandra, Commissioner, School Education Department.

To address the shortage of teachers in government schools, the state government has approved the appointment of 51,000 guest teachers 40,000 for primary schools and 11,000 for high schools. With schools reopening on May 29, the move aims to ensure that academic activities begin without disruption. Although the Education Department had initially proposed 56,000 posts, the Finance Department cleared 51,000 positions.

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◎ Broken pathway

HSR Layout

Pedestrians face inconvenience on the busy 17th Cross Road in HSR Layout due to broken and poorly maintained footpaths.

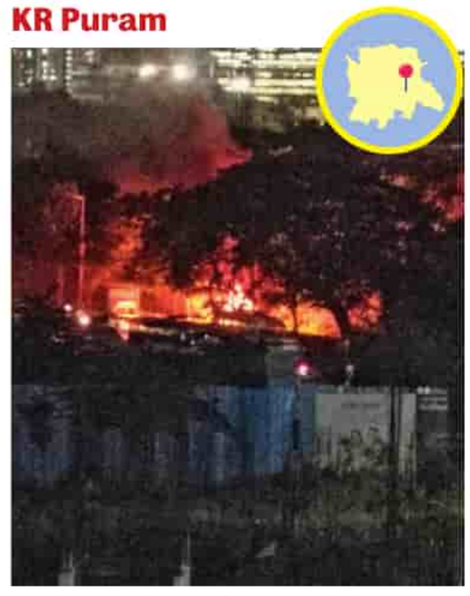
◎ Risky parking

RT Nagar

A vehicle parked on a no-parking curve along Devegowda Main Road near RT Nagar Post endangers motorists, ignoring clear traffic police signage.

◎ Garbage neglect

KR Puram



Behind the K R Puram BBMP office, garbage is openly burned under the guise of segregation. Despite repeated complaints, BBMP officials have yet to address the issue, showing negligence.

Police nab IPL ticket resellers

Two individuals were arrested by police for illegally selling Indian Premier League (IPL) tickets at inflated prices near Vijayanagar. The duo was caught red-handed attempting to sell 1,200 tickets for as high as 5,500 ahead of the high-voltage match between Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) and Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) at Chinnaswamy Stadium.

The accused have been identified as Shankar (19), a resident of Gangadhar Layout in Vijayanagar, and Suresh (30), a resident of SR Nagar. Acting on a tip-off, police approached Shankar near a playground where he offered a 1,200 ticket for 5,000. Upon questioning, he was found in possession of 41 IPL tickets and 20,200 in cash. His mobile phone and tickets were seized.

Shankar confessed that he received the tickets from Venkatagiri Gowda and Ravichandra, allegedly police personnel who have been supplying tickets for resale during IPL matches. He also revealed that Suresh was helping him with the illegal sales. Following this lead, police tracked down Suresh, who was carrying 11 more IPL tickets. They admitted to selling them at black market rates ranging between 5,000 and 6,500.

Both of them have confessed to reselling tickets for profit, fully aware of the illegality. A case has been registered, and the investigation is still ongoing.

CRIME FILES

Finger bitten in traffic fight

A man had to undergo surgery after another motorist bit off his finger in a rage over being splashed with rainwater. Jayant and his wife were driving when their car splashed rainwater onto a nearby vehicle, prompting its driver to react aggressively.

Though Jayant immediately apologised, the other driver began verbally abusing him. The man then followed Jayant's car. With the help of a couple in another car, the accused blocked Jayant's vehicle and launched an assault. During the scuffle, the accused bit Jayant's right index finger hard enough to almost detach it. Jayant was rushed to the hospital, where doctors performed surgery and placed five stitches. He has been advised six months of rest and incurred a medical bill of ₹2 lakh.

A complaint has been lodged at Magadi Road Police Station.

Woman strangled for gold

The Cottonpet police have cracked the murder case of a 50-year-old woman who was strangled at home by two distant relatives. The accused allegedly killed her to steal cash and gold, hoping to recover losses from a failed scam.

The victim, Latha, a native of Bidar and resident of Dargah Mohalla, was alone at home when the accused, identified as Shivappa and Purandar, visited her under the pretext of a casual visit. Latha welcomed them, unaware of their intentions. Soon after, the duo strangled her and fled with valuables.

Police said the accused had suffered a major financial setback after being duped in a "rice pulling" scam. Both men, electricians by profession, hail from Bidar and had visited Latha occasionally in the past.

According to the police, the men travelled to Bengaluru by bus and targeted Latha after careful planning. On the day of the crime, Latha's husband was at his shop in Upparpete, her daughter was at work, and her son was at school, leaving her alone at home. **–BMB**

Dance teacher arrested for abusing minor

Kadugodi police on Thursday rrested a 28-year-old dance teacher, Bharathi Kannan, on charges of sexually harassing a minor girl by forcing her into a car, promising to provide information about dance training. The arrest follows a complaint filed by the victim's family, leading to an investigation and subsequent booking of Kannan under the POCSO Act.

The incident reportedly occurred on May 24, when the girl was walking near Kadugodi. Police reports indicate that Bharathi Kannan, driving a car, approached the girl and identified himself as a dance teacher. He allegedly promised to provide information about dance classes, a ruse that led the unsuspecting girl to enter his vehicle.

Once inside the car, Kannan is accused of locking the doors and driving the girl some distance away before parking. There, he allegedly sexually harassed her. Following the assault, Kannan reportedly drove the girl back to the spot where she had boarded the car and then fled the scene. Upon returning home, the girl informed her parents about the incident. Her parents promptly filed a complaint with the Kadugodi police. Police officials swiftly launched an investigation, utilising CCTV footage from the surrounding area. The footage helped identify the registration number of Kannan's car, which ultimately led to his apprehension. He has been remanded in judicial custody by the court.

BM Food & Night Life

Advertorial Promotional Feature

From kitchen to cure: Cinnamon works

So you have heard enough about the exotic flavour and aroma of cinnamon. And the spice's health benefits have been a discussion point for decades now. Well, scientists have proved that now. A recent study by researchers at the University of Michigan Life Sciences Institute, US, found that cinnamaldehyde, the chemical compound that gives the spice its flavour, is capable of reducing obesity by burning energy in our fat cells. Here are some amazing health benefits of cinnamon that you should know:

Regulates blood pressure

A study by the Department of Nutritional Sciences, University of Toronto, Canada, found that the consumption of the spice significantly reduced the systolic blood pressure in patients with prediabetes and type 2 diabetes.

Anti-bacterial properties

This spice comes with amazing anti-bacterial properties that help fight harmful microbes such as bacteria, fungi, parasites and viruses. A study by the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, University of Kiel, Germany, found that cinnamon oil can also help treat several common as well as hospital-acquired infections.

Helps with diabetes

A study by the Department of Nutrition, University of California-Davis, US, found that those suffering from prediabetes and type 2 diabetes saw a significant reduction in fasting blood sugar when they added cinnamon to their diet.

Helps fight Parkinson's

The study, published in the Journal of Neuroimmune Pharmacology, says that the liver metabolises cinnamon to create sodium benzoate, which enters the brain, stops the loss of the genes Parkin and DJ-1, protects neurons, normalises neurotransmitter levels and significantly improves motor functions in the mice. **– Femina**

Power denied to 5,500 K'taka units over OC rules

New rule stalls electricity for small industries, raising fears amid interstate competition and investment loss

Industries denied power despite wiring, payments, and huge investments

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

While neighbouring states like Andhra Pradesh are rolling out red carpets to attract Karnataka-based industries, the Karnataka government has denied electricity connections to nearly 5,500 small-scale industries, citing the lack of Occupancy Certificate (OC) and Commencement Certificate (CC). This move has triggered widespread concern and backlash from the state's industrial sector.

Under a new regulation effective April 4, the state has made it mandatory for industrial units and sheds similar to residential and commercial properties—to obtain OC and CC before securing electricity connections. However, small and medium entrepreneurs argue that the rule is arbitrary and has disrupted operations across the sector.

> **We understand difficulties housing and industrial sectors face due to mandatory OC for electricity connections, seeking a practical solution**
>
> –Energy Minister KJ George

According to the Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association (KASSIA), several units despite completing internal wiring and paying necessary fees—have been denied power solely because they are situated on B Khata or revenue land and lack the required certificates. Many of these entrepreneurs have invested crores in setting up manufacturing units, poultry farms, and dairy operations, only to face critical delays due to power denial.

"We fully understand the difficulties that housing and industrial sectors are facing due to the mandatory Occupancy Certificate requirement for electricity connections," said Energy Minister KJ George, addressing growing unrest among industrialists. "The Chief Minister has already directed the Chief Secretary to study the issue and submit a detailed report. This matter is being taken seriously and is under active consideration in the Cabinet."

George added that while the state is bound by a Supreme Court directive mandating OCs for utility connections, the government is working on a practical solution. "We are exploring a by-law amendment to mitigate the impact. Once the Chief Secretary's report is submitted, the Cabinet will take a decision that balances legal compliance with public interest," he said.

The government is citing a 2020 Supreme Court ruling (2.170/2020), which instructed authorities not to provide utilities such as water and electricity to buildings without sanctioned plans or those violating building norms. Based on this, the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) issued a directive on March 13, instructing all ESCOMs to deny power without OC.

However, industry bodies have pushed back, saying the government is misinterpreting the order. They question why Karnataka is enforcing the rule so stringently while other states continue to encourage industrial activity. Only 6% of industries in the state are located on approved KIADB or KSSIDC plots. The remaining 94% operate from B Khata or revenue lands, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas.

NAL launches e-Hamsa

India is making significant strides in indigenous defence manufacturing with the development of an electric model two-seater trainer aircraft named "e-Hamsa." The project, led by the National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) in Bengaluru, was announced during a high-level meeting chaired by Union Science and Technology Minister Dr Jitendra Singh. Designed for pilot training, the aircraft will be produced at nearly half the cost of imported trainer planes, with an estimated production cost of around ₹2 crore. The e-Hamsa not only reduces dependency on foreign imports but also offers an environmentally friendly alternative. Its electric design makes it a sustainable and cost-effective solution for modern pilot training needs in India.

–BMB

Gruha Jyothi hassle-free: Minister

Energy Minister KJ George has clarified that there are no issues in de-linking and linking RR numbers under the Gruha Jyothi scheme for households shifting rental homes. Addressing public concerns, he said the entire process is now online, making it easier for users to manage changes. He urged those facing difficulties to contact the concerned officials directly for quick assistance.

The Minister also highlighted the impact of the Gruha Jyothi scheme, noting that around 1.60 crore households across Karnataka are currently receiving zero electricity bills under the initiative. To ensure its smooth functioning, the state government has released nearly ₹9,000 crore in subsidies to the respective ESCOMs. This financial support ensures continued, hassle-free benefits for eligible consumers across the state. –BMB

141 chain-snatching incidents in 2024

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Recently, JC Nagar police arrested four individuals from Nagpur who were allegedly involved in multiple chain-snatching incidents across the city. During the operation, authorities recovered 87 grams of gold ornaments worth ₹6 lakh from the accused.

Police officials explained that the accused specifically targeted elderly women walking alone, as they were less likely to put up resistance during a chain-snatching attempt. In a similar incident on May 5, near Wheeler Extension Road, two men on a scooter snatched a sling bag from a senior citizen. The bag contained cash, an old mobile phone, and house keys.

In another incident in Thyamagondlu (Nelamangala taluk) police arrested Vijay (38), for his involvement in three chain-snatching cases across two police jurisdictions. He targeted lone women by pretending to ask for directions before snatching their gold mangalya chains. On May 20, he allegedly robbed a 60-year-old woman at knifepoint in Hosahalli village. Police officials recovered gold worth ₹3 lakh, a bike, and the weapon used in the crimes.

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION PURPOSE ONLY

In another case near Nelamangala, two men posing as strangers asking for directions from a woman, sprayed a substance on her face, rendering her unconscious. They fled with her gold mangalyasara and earrings, together weighing 20 grams. The incident occurred in Annapurna Layout, and a complaint has been lodged at Madanayakanahalli police station.

Looking back at 2024, a total of 141 chain-snatching cases were reported. Among them, 7 were found to be false, 11 remain undetected, 26 are still under investigation, and 97 are pending trial. In comparison, 153 cases were reported in 2023, with 131 still pending trial, 17 undetected, and only one conviction secured.

Police officials urge the public to stay vigilant and keep phones and valuables safely tucked away. Be alert at every turn and corner, especially when walking alone, as snatchers look for the slightest opportunity. Report any suspicious activity by dialing Namma 112 immediately.

Brake inspectors' work to be on record

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Who are brake inspectors?

Brake inspectors responsible for key functions such as issuing and verifying Driving Licences (DL), Learner's Licences (LL), Fitness Certificates (FC), and conducting vehicle inspections, will now be required to record all their daily tasks in official work diaries. These diaries will also be open for public scrutiny under the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

Officials believe this measure will not only increase oversight but also help identify training needs based on the nature and frequency of tasks performed by each inspector.

Old rule revived

Inspectors were once required to maintain work diaries, however, the practice faded away over time. The latest order, issued by the Joint Commissioner for Bangalore City, reinstates this rule with immediate effect.

Authorities said that while the Vahan 4.0 software enables digital tracking of inspector activity at RTO offices, no such system is currently in place at vehicle checkpoints, where inspectors are rotated for field duties two to three days a week. This lack of digital oversight in the field has made it difficult to verify actual work being carried out.

There have also been allegations that some inspectors avoid regular office duties and selectively attend field checks. Authorities say the new daily logs are intended to function like case diaries in police departments, providing a continuous and verifiable record of each inspector's work.

Tumakuru rolls out move to reduce tech commutes

District invites firms to cut tech workers' daily travel to B'luru; this plan aims to boost local jobs

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Thousands of tech professionals from Tumakuru endure exhausting daily commutes to Bengaluru, but relief may be on the horizon. The Tumakuru district administration is actively inviting IT and BT companies to establish a presence locally, aiming to bring jobs closer to home.

According to officials, the move is aimed at not only reducing the pressure on Bengaluru's overburdened infrastructure but also creating sustainable employment and economic growth within Tumakuru itself. The idea was sparked by growing concerns over the long hours that professionals spend travelling to and from the IT corridors of Bengaluru.

"Tumakuru already has the Vasanthanarasapura Industrial Township, which is a well-established manufacturing hub. Recently, we also inaugurated an international cricket stadium in Vasanthanarasapura. Now completing phases, we are planning to develop phases 5 and 6 in the area. The 6-phase offers dedicated zones for IT firms. With 7 engineering colleges in the district and a large number of graduates each year, this initiative will help generate employment opportunities locally. Post-Covid, many employees have adopted a hybrid work model, and with this shift in work culture, they now have the flexibility to work from their home districts," explained Subha Kalyan, Deputy Commissioner of Tumakuru district.

Beyond infrastructure, the city offers cost savings on rentals, transport and operational expenses. According to Subha Kalyan, around 5,000 to 6,000 people commute over 120 km every day. "This frequent commute not only impacts their work-life balance but also contributes to the increasing congestion in the city. In light of this, we are actively exploring a plan to facilitate a work-from-district model that would allow these employees to discharge their duties from the Tumakuru district headquarters itself," Kalyan said.

Beyond infrastructure, city delivers savings on rent, commute

"This frequent commute not only impacts their work-life balance but also contributes to increasing congestion in the city
–Subha K, Deputy commissioner, Tumakuru

IT/BT Secretary Dr Ekroop Kaur and Director Rahul S Sankanur are actively collaborating with industry stakeholders, highlighting the benefits and incentives of expanding operations to tier-II cities. While earlier plans focused on establishing industrial clusters in Mysuru and Dakshina Kannada, Tumakuru has now emerged as a priority due to its proximity to Bengaluru.

"As an initial step, we asked commuters to fill out a Google form, and since Bengaluru is closest to Tumakuru, we began the initiative there. As a preliminary step, we urge all IT/BT employees living in Tumakuru district who travel to Bengaluru four to five days a week for work to submit their details about which company they are working for. Over 500 members have responded in 24 hours, and we identified 250 companies. They are requested to provide information about their respective organisations through the designated link or QR code provided by the administration," Kalyan said.

According to senior officials, "This information will help us evaluate the scale of need, initiate strategic discussions with companies, and plan suitable infrastructure to support remote working hubs or satellite offices within Tumakuru."

The plan has found strong support among residents, particularly the younger workforce. A user on X commented, "A good initiative by the DC of Tumakuru. Similar steps should be taken by the DCs of Hubballi and Dharwad to reach out to IT professionals commuting to Pune and Bengaluru, encouraging companies to set up operations there."

Another user said, "This idea is far better than waiting endlessly for the delayed Bengaluru-Tumakuru highway. After all, companies don't necessarily need physical connectivity to Bengaluru to operate effectively."

Subha Kalyan revealed plans to organise an open house, inviting nearly 150 IT/BT companies to explore 30,000 sq ft of plug-and-play office space within Tumakuru city. Although 100 acres had earlier been earmarked for industrial use in Vasanthanarasapura, the location's remoteness led to limited interest. As a result, officials are promoting office spaces within the city, offering accessible options with rental costs significantly lower than those in Bengaluru.

If the plan gains traction, it could mark a major shift in how Karnataka distributes its technological growth. For now, officials remain optimistic as preparations are underway to host an industry meet later this year to present Tumakuru's potential to major IT/BT players.

Coastal peace task force

The state government has formally established a Special Action Force to address communal tensions in coastal Karnataka, Home Minister G Parameshwara announced on Thursday.

The force will consist of three companies operating in Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, and Shivamogga districts, identified as sensitive to communal disturbances.

As per the government order (GO), a total of 248 personnel, including a senior Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIGP), will be part of this new unit. The officers have been drawn from the Anti-Naxal Force (ANF), which currently has a strength of 656 personnel.

The primary responsibility of the Special Action Force will be to gather intelligence on potential communal incidents, provocative speeches, and hate-driven activities, and to act swiftly to prevent them.

Home Minister Parameshwara said, "I have directed the Director General and Inspector General of Police (DG&IGP), MA Saleem, to take all necessary steps to set up the force and begin enforcement right away." –BMB

Millionaires' club of B'luru

Bengaluru has been ranked third among the world's top 10 cities witnessing the fastest growth in millionaires over the last decade. The city recorded a 120% increase in the number of millionaires during this period, according to a recent report by investment migration consultancy Henley & Partners.

Among the global top 10, six cities are from the United States, while Shenzhen (China) tops the list with a 142% growth, followed by Scottsdale (USA) at 125%. Bengaluru comes next with 13,600 millionaires currently residing in the city, including 43 individuals with a net worth exceeding ₹800 crore, and 8 ultra-high-net-worth individuals possessing wealth of over ₹8,500 crore. Bengaluru is not alone in this milestone for India. Delhi and Mumbai have also made it into the global top 20 list of fastest-growing wealthy cities, ranking 14th and 18th, respectively. Delhi saw an 82% growth in millionaires, while Mumbai reported a 69% rise.

Court sets aside withdrawal order

IN HIGH COURT

The Karnataka High Court quashed a Government directive on Thursday that instructed public prosecutors to withdraw 43 criminal cases against influential individuals, including politicians, who were charged with various offences such as rioting and attempted murder, violating Section 321 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Chief Justice NV Anjaria and Justice KV Aravind, forming the division bench, declared in their ruling, "Government Order, dated October 15, 2024, is hereby set aside; it is declared that the order shall stand non-est since inception, and consequences in law will follow." The ruling came in response to a public interest litigation filed by Girish Bharadwaj challenging the government directive.

Under Section 321 CrPC, a Public Prosecutor or Assistant Public Prosecutor managing a case can, with the Court's consent, withdraw prosecution against any individual before judgment pronouncement, either completely or for specific offences under trial.

Advocate Venkatesh Dalwai, representing the petitioner, contended that the government lacks authority in case withdrawals, as this decision rests with public prosecutors. He cited Supreme Court precedents stating Section 321 CrPC does not envision state government involvement in case withdrawals. –BMB

MLC directed to apologise

The Karnataka High Court verbally directed BJP MLC N Ravi Kumar to apologise to Kalaburagi District Collector Fauzia Tarannum for his controversial remarks. Kumar faces charges under various sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023 and the SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

During the hearing of Kumar's petition to quash the FIR, Justice Suraj Govindaraj's vacation bench referenced similar incidents, stating, "These are not the statements to be made. You have seen what happened in Madhya Pradesh and the Supreme Court, with a sitting minister, you are no different, you cannot be making such kind of statements."

When the petitioner's counsel, Advocate Vinod Kumar M, mentioned that an apology was made, the court emphasised that the apology needed acceptance from the affected party and documentation before consideration.

The petitioner contested the application of the Atrocities Act, stating no community-specific insults were made. However, Additional State Public Prosecutor BN Jagadeesha countered that the complaint only captured half of the video's content.

The court scheduled the next hearing for June 19, directing the submission of video evidence via pen drive. The court noted the petitioner's claimed apology and requested an affidavit confirming this by the next hearing. –BMB

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, VASUDEV SATYANARAYAN BEGOOR, Residing at F3, Apex Nivas, 3rd Cross, Majunathnagar, Bangalore-560061, hereby state that my name has been incorrectly mentioned as VASUDEO SATYANARAYAN BEGOOR instead of VASUDEV SATYANARAYAN BEGOOR in current Passport. For the purpose of passport renewal this notice is published vide affidavit dated 25/04/2025 sworn before Notary P. Anuradha

WE, Kiran Lekshmi Narayanan Potti & Chaitra C.R, R/at No.5, Kanasu, 2nd Main, 1st Cross, Vasanthavallaba Nagar, Kothanoor, JP Nagar 8 Phase, Bangalore-560076, hereby decl are that our Minor Daughter name has been changed from Poorvi.K to Tanusha K, vide affidavit dt: 15.11.2017 before notary G.Krishna Reddy, B.lore

I, AAFREN ZEHRA W/o HUSSAIN MUSTAQ ANWER ALI R/ at No 6/24, C Street, Parappa Field, Neelasandra, Bangalore 560047 changed my name to AAFREN ZEHRA KAMDAR, Sworn Before Notary Public B M Chandrashekar on 23-05-2025

I Mohammed Ammar Abbas S/o Mohammed Taher Yusuf Ali Kamdar R/at 6/24, C Street, Parappa Field, Neelasandra, Bangalore 560047 changed my name to Mohammed Ammar Abbas Kamdar sworn before notary B M Chandrashekar on 28-05-2025

I Jhansi Mary M W/O, Padma Charan R S R/o 29, Nirmala Nivasa, 2nd Main Road, Iti Layout, b. narayanapura, Bangalore -560016 have changed my name to Jhansi Mary P C.

I Nandini Das Mysore Purandara W/O, Arun Srinivasan R/o No. 5, 6th Road, Nandidurga Extension, B\'lore-46, have changed my name to Nandini Das.

I Basava Pranav S/O, Shivakumar Mudenur R/o No 308 Karthika Residency Apt E Block 14th Main, 3rd Cross Shakarnagar, Bengaluru - 560092 have changed my name to Basava Pranav Mudenur.

I Adith Prasanna S/O, Bhagyalakshmi.p R/o N0-368/3,3rd Cross, Sharadamba Nagar,jalahalli, Bengaluru-560013 have changed my name to Adith .

I, Chaitra Kiran, W/o Kiran lekshmi Narayanan potti, R/at No.5,Kanasu, 2nd Main, 1st Cross, Vasanthavallaba Nagar, Kothanoor, JP Nagar 8 Phase, Bangalore-560076 have changed my name to Chaitra C.R, affidavit dt: 28.05.2025 before notary Ambreshappa, B.lore.

I Aditi Shaileshbhai Bhatt W/O, Vivasvan Sudhir Shastri R/o Villa No 474, The Empyrean, Anchemuskur Village, Malur, Karnataka 563160 have changed my name to Aditi Vivasvan Shastri .

I, Neelufar Yousuf, R/o No.6, 1st Floor,Taj Residency, JP Nagar,Bangalore-560078 hereby declare that I have changed my name from Mohamed Haffice Neelofar Abdul Jaleel to Neelufar Yousuf for all purposes henceforth.

I, SYED LIYAQATH, R/a.#26, Cooks Road, 2nd B Thimmaiah Rd, Bharthinagar, Bangalore-560051. I, have Changed my name to SYED LIYAKATH, Vide affidavit, dated 23/05/2025 Sworn before Notary: Meer Hussain. Bangalore

I, Bharathi Kumari/Bharti/ Bharathi/Bharathi Nirmal W/o Nirmal Kumar R/o #7, 4th Cross , A M Lane Chickpet B'luru-560053 have changed my name to Bharathi Devi for all purposes.

I Shivani Waghmare D/O, Vishnu R/o 25306 Prestige Jindal City Chikkabidarakallu Tumkur Road Bangalore have changed my name to Shivani V Waghmare .

I, NEETA DABRAL SANTOSHKUMAR D/O Kishin Lalsing Ajwani aged about 59 years R/at T-706,Purva Park Apartment,No.53,MSO Colony, Cox Town, Bengaluru-560005 have changed my name to NEETA DABRAL vide affidavit dtd:27/04/2025 sworn before notary Uday Kumar K,B'luru

LOST & FOUND

I, C T Puttaswamy residing at No. 206, 12th B Cross, Vyalikaval, Bangalore. I have lost my Original sale deed (Mother Deed) of property bearing No 361, F Block BBMP Khatha No.369/391/361. Sahakara Nagara, Registered vide No. 448/1994-95 dated 04.05.1994 at Yalahanka Sub Register Office, Bangalore. Deed was lost on 28/05/2025 at Vyalikaval Bangalore. If anybody find the original sale deed please handover to the nearest Police station or above mentioned address.

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YOUR BABY'S FIRST VACATION?

Here's how you can make it memorable

It's that time of the year when many of us start planning our vacations. But if you've just welcomed a new baby, you might be wondering if travel is even possible. Managing a newborn at home can feel overwhelming, so the thought of travelling may seem out of reach. We hear you, new parents - but it doesn't have to be that way.

A holiday can offer you a well-deserved break and give your baby a refreshing change of environment. In fact, travelling with a baby can sometimes be easier than expected, especially before they start solids, as you won't need to worry about elaborate feeding routines.

If you're hesitant to expose your newborn to a wider environment, consider waiting until they are around four months old and have received the key vaccinations typically given in the first 14 weeks. With thoughtful planning and a little flexibility, your first trip as a family can be smooth, joyful, and truly memorable.

Choose The Right Destination

Pick a baby-friendly destination which is ideally somewhere with a mild climate, clean surroundings, and access to healthcare if needed. Look for accommodations that offer family-friendly amenities like cribs, highchairs, and kitchenettes. Avoid places with extreme temperatures or chaotic crowds. A relaxed beach town, quiet hill station, or a short countryside retreat can be ideal.

Plan Around Baby's Routine

Try to maintain your baby's nap and feed schedule as closely as possible. While some flexibility is natural, a familiar rhythm will help reduce fussiness and make the trip more enjoyable for everyone. Schedule travel time during your baby's longest nap if possible, especially for flights or long car rides.

Print A DIY Certificate

Some airlines offer a "First Flight Certificate" for babies, but this varies depending on the carrier and crew. To be sure, it's a great idea to check online for printable templates beforehand. You can print one on a thicker sheet or card stock and carry it with you. Most in-flight staff are happy to accommodate the request, some might even sign it or add a personal message. It's a sweet keepsake from your baby's first journey through the skies, and a lovely addition to their memory box.

Notify Your Hotel For A Warm Welcome

When booking your accommodation, inform the hotel staff that you'll be travelling with a newborn. Many family-friendly hotels go the extra mile to make your arrival special, some even set up mini treats, fresh flowers, or a personalised welcome note for your baby. It's a thoughtful touch that can make your first trip as a family feel even more memorable and comforting.

Consider Your Mode of Travel

For road trips, ensure the car seat is properly installed. Take frequent breaks to feed, change, and soothe your baby. For flights, feeding during take-off and landing can help ease ear pressure. Check with airlines in advance about bassinet availability and baggage policies for infants.

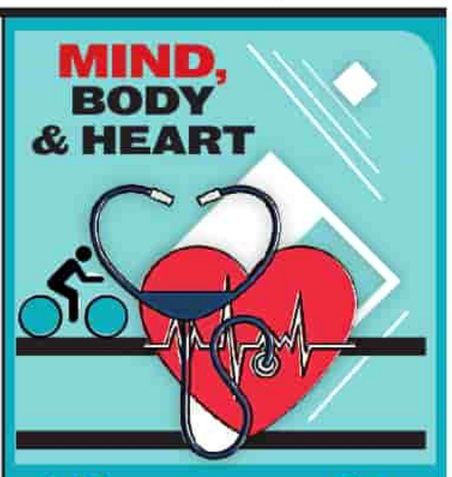
Stay Calm And Be Flexible

Even with all the preparation, babies are unpredictable. Be ready for minor hiccups—whether it's an unexpected diaper change or a nap strike. What matters most is your calm presence. Don't over-plan your itinerary. One major outing a day is usually enough for a family with a newborn.

Capture The Moments

Your baby might not remember this trip, but you will. Take photos, jot down a few memories, and embrace the slow, magical moments. The first coo by the sea or giggle in a new place can become treasured memories.

— Femina



All you need to know about...

Signs of dating burnout

The wrong type
If your dating history looks like a spin-off series featuring the same flawed lead, it's time to change it out or check out. Let's be real, if it didn't work with the first three versions, it's probably not going to work with the sequel either.

It feels like something you're supposed to do
If your life right now doesn't quite match the picture you once had in mind, it's natural to feel a sense of urgency to find someone and fast-track your way to 'settling down'. But here's the truth: timelines aren't one-size-fits-all. Things really do unfold when they're meant to. So if dating feels more like pressure than pleasure, give yourself permission to step back.

Lowering your standards
Ever catch yourself making excuses for someone you're dating? While it's totally fine to ease up on an overly picky checklist, if you're constantly having to lower your standards just to keep someone around, you might be blocking the path to the kind of connection you truly deserve.

Do they impress you?
If you're constantly nervous about proving your worth on a date, you're doing yourself a disservice. A date should be a mutual exploration, not an interview where you feel pressured to prove you're 'good enough'.

No fun anymore
Maybe everyone's a red flag, a walking beige flag or just a complete nope. If your default setting is eye-roll and the idea of putting yourself out there seems more exhausting than exciting, you're deep in burnout territory.

— Sharon D'Silva, Femina

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MIRRORLIGHTS

Autistic patients at high risk of Parkinson's disease: Study

People with autism could be at a higher risk of developing Parkinson's disease early in life, according to a large-scale study that showed similar underlying biological mechanisms of the conditions.

Researchers from the Karolinska Institutet questioned a possible connection between the neuropsychiatric diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD), which affects an individual's thought processes, behaviour, and interpersonal communication, and early-onset Parkinson's disease -- a condition that affects locomotion and movement.

The results, published in JAMA Neurology, show that people with an autism diagnosis were four times more likely to develop Parkinson's disease than people without such a diagnosis.

The correlation between the conditions remained

even when controlling for socioeconomic status -- a genetic predisposition for mental illness or Parkinson's disease and other such factors, said the researchers, who suspect the role of dopamine.

"This indicates that there can be shared biological drivers behind ASD and Parkinson's disease," said Weiyao Yin, researcher at the Department of Medical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Karolinska Institutet.

"One hypothesis is that the brain's dopamine system is affected in both cases, since the neurotransmitter dopamine plays an important part in social behavior and motion control," Yin added.

The study is based on registry data from over two million people born in Sweden between 1974 and 1999, who were followed from the age of 20 up to the end of 2022.

It is well-known that dopamine-producing neurons are degraded in Parkinson's disease.

Previous studies have also shown that dopamine is possibly implicated in autism, but more research needs to be done to confirm this.

"We hope that our results will eventually help to bring greater clarity to the underlying causes of both ASD and Parkinson's disease," Yin said.

Calling for more studies, the researchers urged healthcare services to keep people with ASD -- a vulnerable group with high co-morbidity and high use of psychotropics -- under long-term observation. **—IANS**

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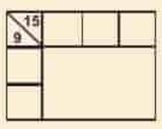
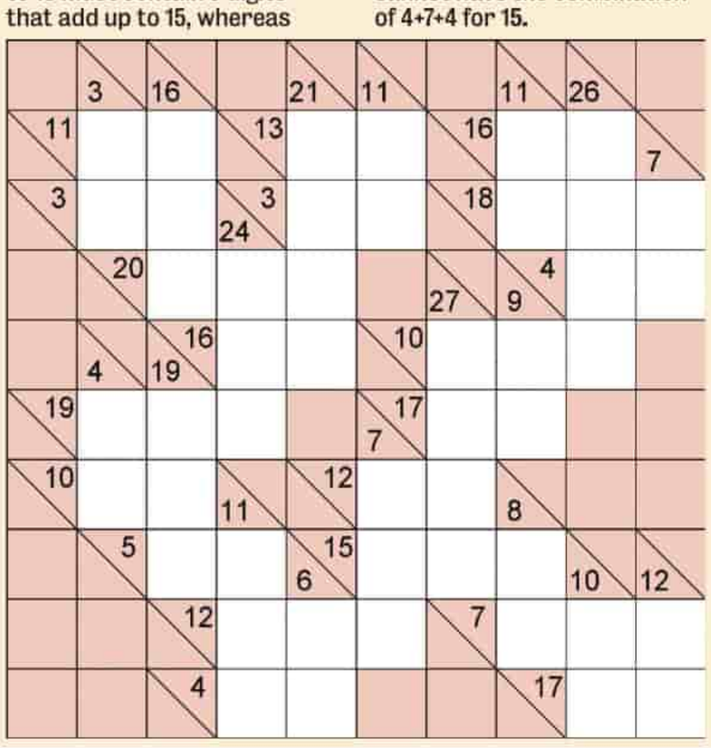
Kakuro

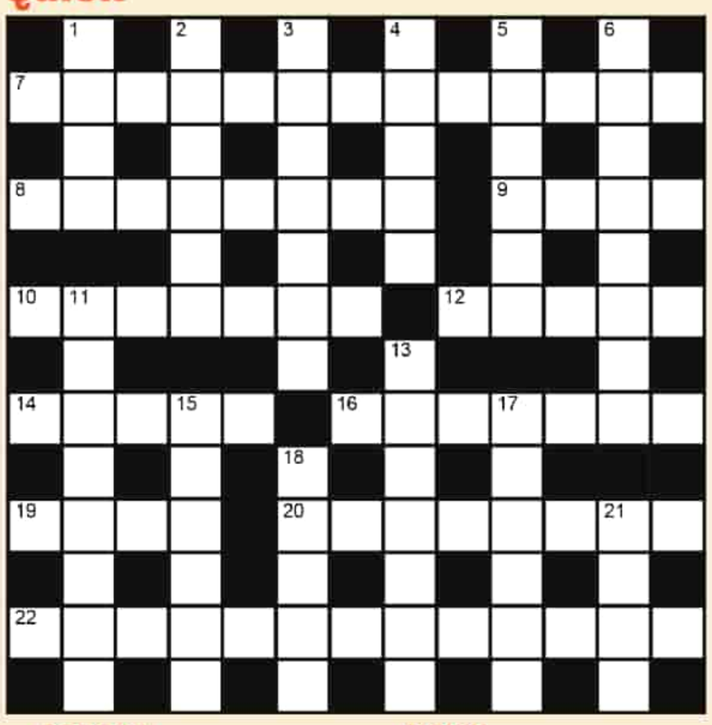
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Formal sanction (to proceed or act) (13)
8 Waylaid (8)
9 Odisha city (4)
10 Newspaper bosses (7)
12 Workforce (5)
14 Cunningly (5)
16 Facial contortion (7)
19 Talk boastfully (4)
20 Sentimental fondness (4,4)
22 Cosmopolitan (13)

DOWN

1 Coal dust (4)
2 Sudden push (6)
3 Fruit grove (7)
4 Lay ___ : abandon or reject? (5)
5 ___ ___ nothing : be ruthless? (4,2)
6 Dreadful or frightening (8)
11 Mournful (8)
13 A much sought-after edible fungus (7)
15 Ambassador of the Pope (6)
17 The State Archaeological ____ is located in Cubbon Park (6)
18 ___ out : make nervous ? (5)
21 Alright (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Q EQUALS N

TQO LIKQ UF ETUQY MQ JMAE BTETOK, GMMX AB ETFIKE FITQ OMLQ. LUFIMAF FIK ETUQ, FIKEK LMAGO RK QM ETUQRML.

Linemaro

Even if there wasn't gravity on earth, I'd still fall for you

Mindchow

A sick thought can devour the body's flesh more than fever or consumption

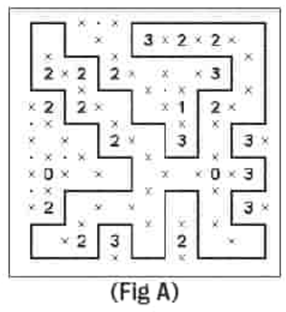
Joke of the day

Las Vegas is the oasis of the outstretched palms

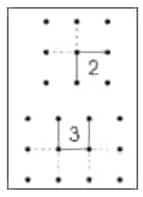
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

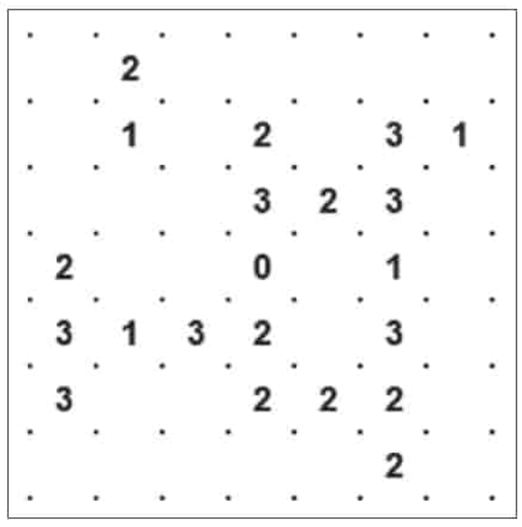


(Fig B) Not Allowed

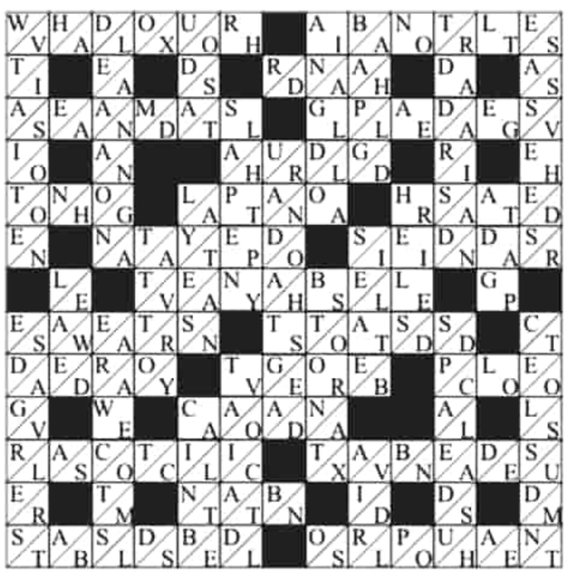
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



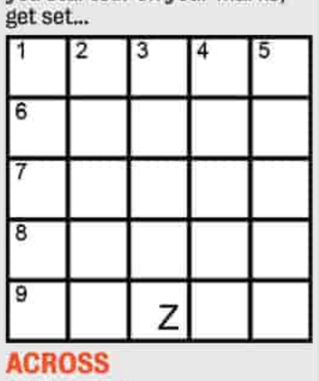
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

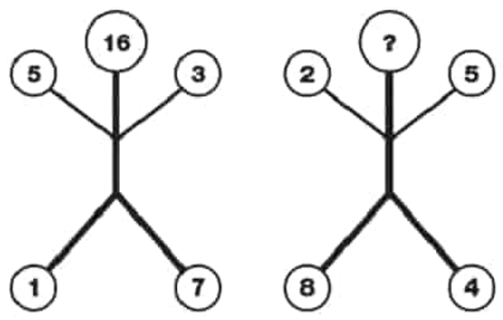
1 Inter; 6 Ana so;
7 Kit up; 8 A tale;
9 AR Zal

DOWN

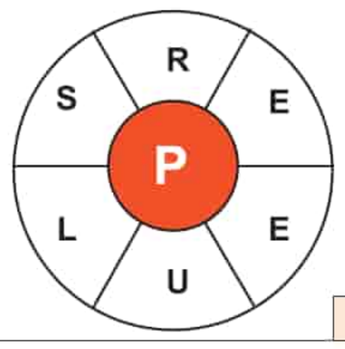
1 At LAN; 2 Ulna I;
3 Zap to; 4 Tiara;
5 Reeks

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark on the head of the second figure?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

16 Average; 18 Good; 20 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

6				4				3
		3	5		6	4		
	4	7				5	9	
	1	2				6	5	
			2		5			
	7	4				9	3	
	6	1				2	8	
		5	9		4	3		
9				6				5

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 16

1 3 5 7

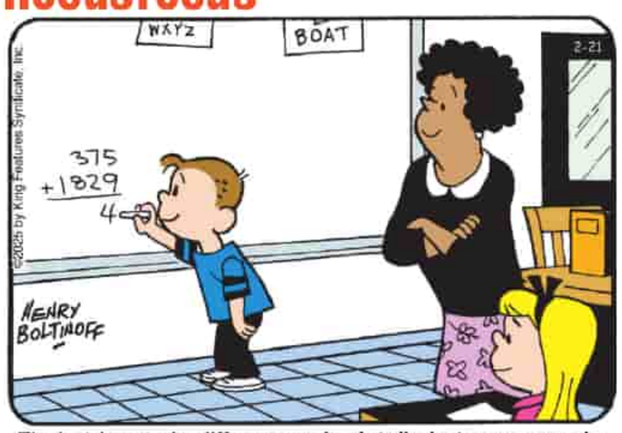
Medium = 12

4 7 7 8

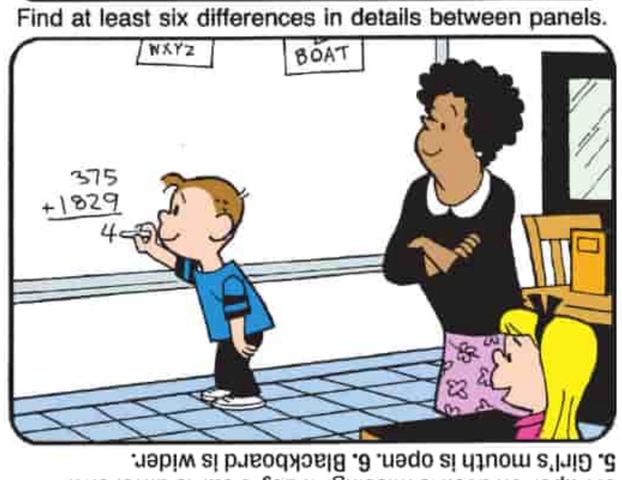
Hard = 38

2 3 8 5

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



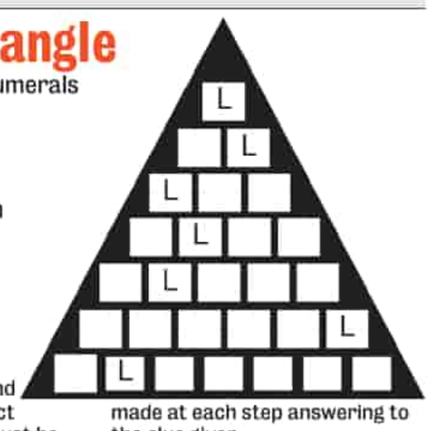
Differences: 1. Back of chair is higher. 2. Hair is longer. 3. Paper on desk is missing. 4. Boy's ear is different. 5. Girl's mouth is open. 6. Blackboard is wider.

Riddler

What well known series can these alphabetized letters be rearranged to form?
aaaaaabdeeghllmmptt

Alpha triangle

1 Fifty in Roman numerals
2 Spanish article
3 French article
4 Swerve
5 Rhythm and _ ?
6 Measure of grain
7 Turned red in embarrassment

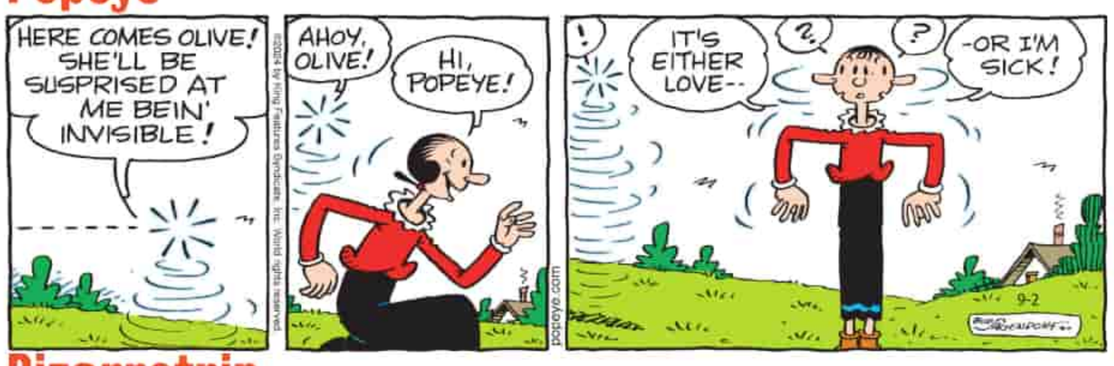


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

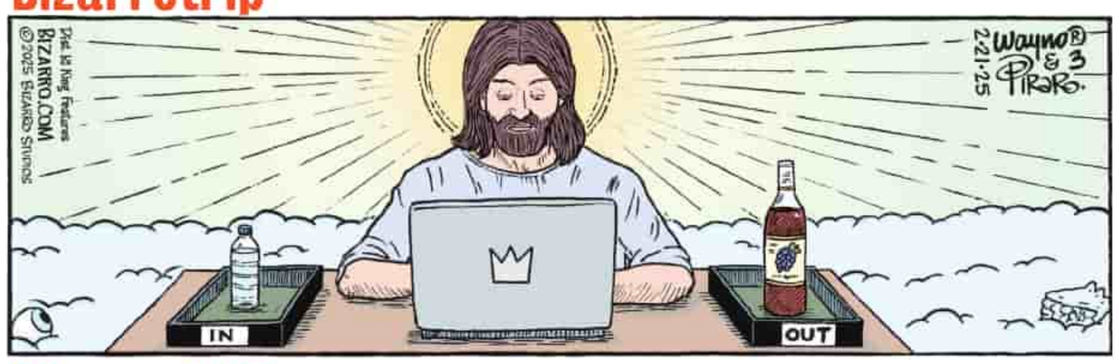
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye


HERE COMES OLIVE! SHE'LL BE SUSPRISED AT ME BEIN' INVISIBLE!
AHOY, OLIVE!
HI, POPEYE!
IT'S EITHER LOVE--
-OR I'M SICK!
©2024 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

WANNA COME OVER FOR SOME AFTER-SCHOOL SNACKS?
I'LL JOIN, BUT PASS ON THE SNACKS. I'M ALL BLOATED FOR UTERUS REASONS.
CHARLOTTE, HAVE YOU STARTED YOUR... YOU KNOW?
WHAT? OUR HOMEWORK? WE JUST GOT OUT OF SCHOOL, SO... NO.
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT PERIODS!
OH! ALSO NO. BUT MY MEDICAL ADVISERS SAY I'VE GOT A FEW YEARS BEFORE THAT BECOMES A PROBLEM.
WHO ARE YOUR MEDICAL ADVISERS?
MY MOMS!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@JOECOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

WITH YOUR BACK AS BAD AS IT IS... HAVE YOU CONSIDERED GETTING A NEW MATTRESS?
I DID GET A NEW MATTRESS.
I THREW MY BACK OUT TRYING TO GET IT UPSTAIRS!
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books
2-21
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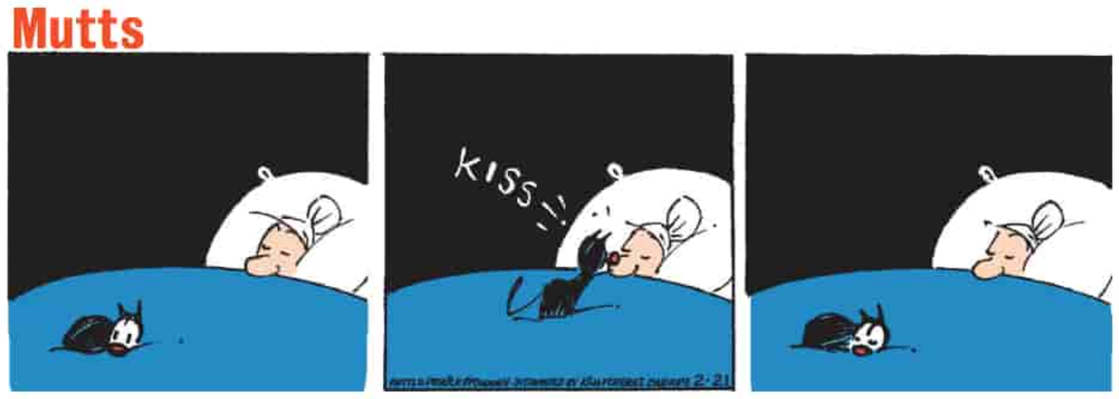
Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, your intellectual abilities may shine. You might focus on gaining knowledge and recognizing the value of intellectual assets. Controlling your temper will help you perform tasks more smoothly. Financial comfort may come through stable earnings. Be cautious with new investments in assets. You might spend on loved ones, and love birds are likely to enjoy pleasant moments together.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
The Moon's position may bring negativity today. You might feel burdened by responsibilities and rush to complete tasks, leading to mistakes. Your efficiency may drop, affecting ongoing projects. It's best to consult your elders before making any important decisions.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
You are blessed by the Moon today. You may receive good news from a sibling and spend quality time with family and friends. Creativity may lead you to renovate your home or office. Starting a new partnership with a family member could prove fruitful. At work, your subordinates may be supportive with projects.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Negativity may surround you today. Tasks might remain incomplete, and mood swings could affect your productivity. Mistakes may cause confusion. Love birds could face emotional uncertainty. High expectations might create distance with your spouse. It's advised to take care of your parents' health. Students should work to improve their focus.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
The positive Moon may bring you peace of mind and happiness. You'll likely be efficient at work, and your subordinates may assist in key decisions. A new venture with help from siblings or your network could boost your business growth. Be sure to get enough rest to maintain your energy.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
A negative Moon may cause detachment from your responsibilities. Overspending on unimportant items might affect your home or workplace environment. Be cautious of rivals or hidden enemies. It's advised to read all documents carefully before signing anything.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
You are blessed by the Moon today. Family and professional life may bring joy. A polite and positive demeanor will aid in completing your tasks smoothly. You may discover new sources of income, which can increase your savings. You might also plan to renovate your home or office.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
A positive Moon may uplift your spirits. You'll likely be rewarded for your hard work and gain more social respect. However, mental fatigue from overworking could keep you from attending family events. A parent's chronic health issue may improve today.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
The Moon favors you today. Satisfaction at work may lead you to plan a short business trip. You may also visit a religious place to find inner peace. Elders could offer valuable guidance, helping you clarify your goals.

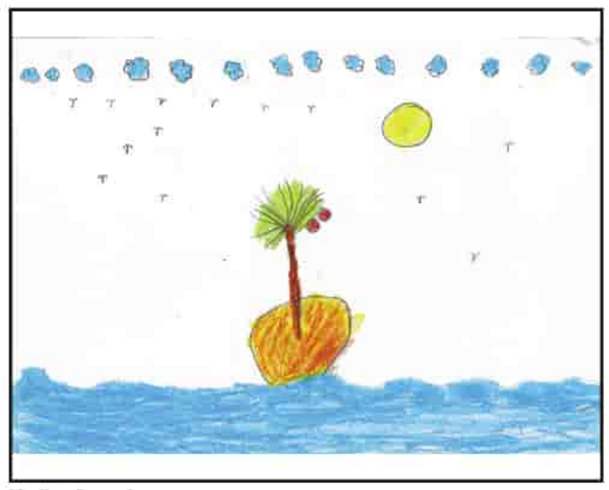
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
A negative Moon may make you feel low. Keeping a calm mind is crucial—think twice before acting. You might need to travel to recover a debt; otherwise, financial loss is possible. Avoid adventure trips today. Students should focus on deep study for success.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
A positive Moon may bring joy and domestic harmony. You could meet an influential person who helps you professionally. Good performance at work may earn you promotions or recognition. Property disputes may move toward resolution.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
The Moon supports you today. You're likely to be in good health and focused on your goals. Your performance may be impressive, gaining your boss's appreciation and added responsibilities. You might receive positive news regarding legal matters and successfully handle opposition in business.

KIDZONE

Shagun, Bengaluru



Madhu, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
$7^{\circ}(7^2+7+1)+7^{\circ}(7^2+7+1) = 7^2$

RIDDLER
Alpha, beta, gamma, delta

BULL'S EYE
leper, peel, peer, peruse, plus, pule, pulse, pure, super, puree, purl, purse, repel, REPULSE, rupee, seep, sleep, slurp, spree, spurl,

QUOTE UNCODE
And when it rains on your parade, look up rather than down. Without the rain, there would be no rainbow.

FAST FIVE

N	I	T	R	E
A	N	O	A	S
T	U	P	I	K
A	L	A	T	E
L	A	Z	A	R

STRIKE OUT

T	A	S	S	E	L	■	O	R	P	H	A	N	■	■
E	■	T	■	T	A	B	■	I	■	S	■	M	■	■
L	A	C	T	I	C	■	X	A	N	A	D	U	■	■
G	■	E	■	C	O	D	A	■	L	■	■	L	■	■
A	E	R	Y	■	V	E	R	B	■	P	L	O	■	■
E	W	E	R	S	■	T	O	A	D	S	■	C	■	■
■	E	■	T	E	N	A	B	L	E	■	P	■	■	■
N	■	N	A	Y	E	D	■	S	E	N	D	S	■	■
O	H	O	■	A	T	N	O	■	H	A	T	E	■	■
I	■	N	■	A	U	L	D	■	I	■	■	H	■	■
S	A	N	D	A	L	■	G	L	A	D	E	S	■	■
I	■	E	■	S	■	R	N	A	■	A	■	A	■	■
V	A	L	O	U	R	■	A	B	O	R	T	S	■	■

RIDDLER
Alpha, beta, gamma, delta

QUICK

■	■	S	■	E	■	H	■	E	■	M	■	Y	■	■
M	U	L	T	I	C	U	L	T	U	R	A	L	■	■
■	O	■	■	A	■	Y	■	F	■	E	■	K	■	■
B	R	A	G	■	S	O	F	T	S	P	O	T	■	■
■	O	■	E	■	P	■	U	■	■	U	■	■	■	■
S	L	Y	L	Y	■	G	R	I	M	A	C	E	■	■
■	O	■	■	■	D	■	■	T	■	I	■	■	■	■
E	D	I	T	O	R	S	■	S	T	A	F	F	■	■
■	S	■	■	A	■	E	■	A	■	I	■	■	■	■
A	M	B	U	S	H	E	D	■	P	U	R	I	■	■
L	■	R	■	C	■	I	■	O	■	R	■	■	■	■
A	U	T	H	O	R	I	S	A	T	I	O	N	■	■
C	■	T	■	O	■	A	■	S	■	H	■	■	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
6. In each figure, calculate the difference between the upper and lower left hand numbers, and the upper and lower right hand numbers and multiply these differences together to give the value at the top.

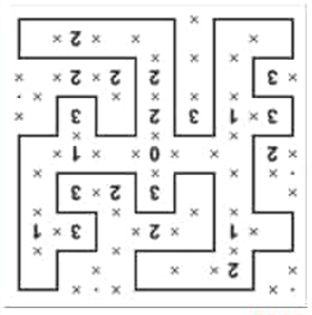
SUDOKU

9	3	8	1	6	2	7	4	5
7	2	5	9	8	4	3	6	1
4	6	1	3	5	7	2	8	9
5	7	4	6	1	8	9	3	2
8	9	6	2	3	5	1	7	4
3	1	2	4	7	9	6	5	8
1	4	7	8	2	3	5	9	6
2	8	3	5	9	6	4	1	7
6	5	9	7	4	1	8	2	3

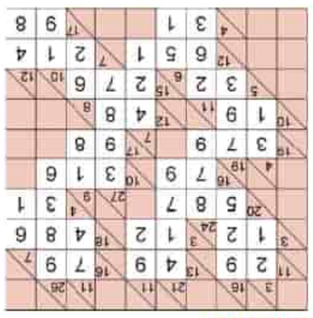
ALPHA TRIANGLE
L, El, Les, Slue, Blues, Bushel, Blushed.

GO FIGURE
Easy
5 + 3 + 1 + 7 = 16
Medium
7 – 7 + 8 + 4 = 12
Hard
3 x 2 x 5 + 8 = 38

LOOP



KAKURO



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 # Apologise now
If Kamal Haasan doesn't apologise by May 30, 'Thug Life' will not be screened in Karnataka: KFCC

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

New love story

Kote Prabhakar, known for his villain roles, is on cloud nine about releasing the trailer of College Kalavida at SRV Preview Theater on Wednesday. Actor-cum-director Nagendra Urs, actor Pratham, Jagadeesh of Jaya Karnataka were present on the occasion.

"It is for the first time I am getting a chance to be the chief guest for a movie event. Though I did not act in this movie, the team invited me with love and affection to unveil the trailer," said Prabhakar.

On the occasion, Urs said that his student Mahesh will edit the movie. "I have edited the trailer of this movie. It is a love story with different and interesting twists," said Urs.

Sanjay Malavalli debuts as a director in Sandalwood. "I have worked as assistant and associate director for 15 Kannada movies. I consider actor Mandya Ramesh as my teacher. College Kalavida has love, sentiment, action, and comedy. It was shot in and around Bengaluru and Chikkamagaluru. The movie is scheduled for release on June 6," the director said.

Tarun Sharma, a steel merchant, has bankrolled the movie. "I play the villain in the movie. We plan to screen the movie at around 100 theatres across the state," he said.

Film about a donkey

Many movies have been made on animals including pet dogs but no movie has been made on a donkey all these years. Now, director Siddu Poornachandra, who handled the megaphone for Daari Yavudayya Vaikuntakke, Brahmakamala, and Taarini, is directing Puttannana Katthe (Puttanna's donkey). The first look poster was unveiled recently by the movie's team on the occasion of the director's birthday. The poster highlights the donkey. "There are some movies based on dogs. I thought why not make a movie based on a donkey. This thought made me write the script for this movie," said Poornachandra.

The director has said that working with the donkey was very tough. It took some time for the cast and crew to build a rapport with the donkey. Though initially it was very difficult for me to handle the donkey, it became easy for the team to adapt them with the donkey after understanding its behaviour," the director said. The movie features Anish Arayan, Bheemesh, Leo Sharma, and Vibha Vandan, Kalarathi Mahadev and others.

It said the donkey's name is Gowri in the movie, and its caretaker has also acted in the movie.

Rashmika's location

Photos in saree captivate fans who try guessing where she is

Actress Rashmika Mandanna set Instagram ablaze on Wednesday with a series of stunning photos in a vibrant yellow saree.

However, it was her accompanying caption that truly sent fans into a frenzy, igniting widespread speculation that the pictures were taken at rumored beau Vijay Deverakonda's residence, and perhaps even by him.

"These pictures have all of my favourites. The colour, the vibe, the place, the beautiful lady who gifted me the saree, the photographer and the everything and everything in this photo is irreplaceable to me," Rashmika's caption read, deliberately hinting at deeply personal connections to the photos. This cozy and familiar setting was instantly recognizable to eagle-eyed fans. Many quickly pointed out its striking resemblance to interiors frequently seen in Vijay Deverakonda's own social media posts. Comments flooded in, with users directly tagging Vijay, asserting, "Photo clicked by Vijay Devera konda." Another popular theory emerged, with a fan adding, "I think VD's mother gifted that saree," suggesting a deeper family connection to the saree itself.

While Rashmika and Vijay have consistently remained tight-lipped about the status of their rumored relationship, their frequent public appearances and discreet vacations have kept the speculation buzzing among their ardent followers. Their on-screen chemistry in past collaborations like Geetha Govindam and Dear Comrade has earned them massive fan love, which seamlessly extends to their off-screen dynamic.

—ETimes

Forever young

Hollywood actress Natalie Portman, who made her debut with 'Leon: The Professional', has an illustrious career of 30 years behind her. But the actress shared that people still "treat her like a child", reports 'Female First UK'.

The 43-year-old actress, who rose to fame as a child in 1999's 'Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace', insisted that despite growing up in the spotlight and developing a "serious persona" to combat people's perceptions of her, she is still fighting against it.

As per 'Female First UK', during a conversation about Jenna Ortega, Natalie told 'Harper's Bazaar' magazine, "We're both physically tiny, so people will often treat you like a child forever. I'm 43 now, and people kind of pat me on the head. I don't look like a child, but I often feel like I'm treated like a kid".

She further mentioned, "Child actors often cultivate a serious persona because otherwise they'll get treated like kids forever. When you start working as a kid, you kind of always feel like a kid in the workplace. Having some of that seriousness helps remind people, 'I'm a grown-up'. Natalie and Jenna have worked together in new comedy thriller 'The Gallerist', and the 'Fountain of Youth' actress noticed they have a similar process in between takes".

—IANS

Exciting vision

Actress Radhika Apte will next be seen in Karan Kandhari's "Sister Midnight". As the versatile diva read the script for the first time, she thought that it was the kind of film that offered the space to experiment.

She said, "It felt very exciting. It was very honest. Karan just had written exactly what he wanted to make without thinking about other things. Like, what would commercial producers think of it? It was solely his vision. There is such sparse dialogue, a lot had to be conveyed through just face and body. I thought that this is that kind of a film where you get to experiment, you really get to try something new."

Sharing his experience of working with Radhika, the filmmaker revealed, "It was the greatest relationship and collaboration I've had with an actor ever. And it was like having the best imaginary friend to play with."

"The types of performances I go after are quite specific. It's all behavioural and about removing the intellectual approach to it. Everything Uma does is sort of impulsive and in the present moment. With Radhika, my work was to constantly root ourselves in the body, in the present moment, and react from instinct and intuition." he added.

Penned and helmed by Karan Kandhari, "Sister Midnight" has been backed by Alastair Clark, along with Anna Griffin and Alan McAlex.

—IANS

'She's not interested in any of this work'

While many star kids have recently made their acting debut in Bollywood, couple Ajay Devgn and Kajol's daughter Nysa has some other plans at the moment.

During the trailer launch of Kajol's film Maa in Mumbai, Ajay Devgn was asked whether he considered casting his daughter, Nysa, in the "mythological horror". Ajay said, "At the moment she is not interested in this kind of work." Ajay and Kajol answered questions from the media.

Kajol also talked about how the theme of motherhood in Maa echoed with her. "I spoke about this during Salaam Venky as well...It's any parent's worst nightmare (to lose their child). I normally tend not to let my feelings affect my shot, but somewhere down the line, subconsciously, emotions come easier. Tears fall more easily," she said.

—ANI